# Comments on texts resulting from the Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission Report – September 2005 Meeting Submitted by the United States of America

## Chapter 1.3.4 -- Guidelines for the Evaluation of Veterinary Services

Article 1.3.4.12.

# Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body

#### 1. Scope

In the evaluation of the *veterinary statutory body*, the following items may be considered, depending on the purpose of the evaluation:

## 2. Evaluation of objectives and functions

The veterinary statutory body should define its policy and objectives, including detailed descriptions of its powers and functions such as:

- to regulate veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals through licensing and/or registration of such persons;
- to determine the minimum standards of training education required for degrees, diplomas and certificates entitling the holders thereof to be registered as veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals;
- to determine the standards of professional conduct of *veterinarians* and *veterinary* para-professionals and to ensure these standards are met.

# 3. Evaluation of legislative basis, autonomy and functional capacity

The veterinary statutory body should be able to demonstrate that it has the capacity, supported by appropriate legislation, to exercise and enforce control over all veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals. These controls should include, where appropriate, compulsory licensing and registration, minimum standards of training education for the recognition of degrees, diplomas and certificates, setting standards of professional conduct and exercising control and the application of disciplinary procedures.

**Rationale/comment**: We believe that the word "education" instead of the word "training" is the more appropriate term for both these statements.